

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

71 Spice Hill Drive  
PO Box 801  
Wallingford, CT 06492  
203/269-8612

Dear ATARI 400/800 Computer User:

OMICRON is currently offering several professional quality products (hardware and software) that we feel are of special interest to ATARI™ 400/800 computer users. OMICRON deals in products which represent the leading edge in small computer technology. **SPEECH SYNTHESIZERS** manufactured by four of the leaders in speech synthesis technology and a new language implementation aimed at taking advantage of features unique to the ATARI (at prices the small computer enthusiast can afford), are the core of OMICRON's product line.

Speech synthesizers allow you to easily program your ATARI (or other small computer) to speak. Your ATARI computer has some of the best graphics capabilities presently available. Now it can have a voice to match.

- ° Speech synthesizers are great for educational software (try writing a program to help children spell, without one).
- ° Numerous applications for the handicapped (spoken output for the blind, as an example).
- ° Terrific enhancement to games (imagine STAR RAIDERS with a talking attack computer).

The applications are limitless. All the popular small computer magazines have been including major articles concerning speech synthesis. NOW is the time to add this exciting capability to your system. The following pages describe the units we have available (Alien Group-VOICE BOX™, Intex Micro Systems-INTEX Talker™, Street Electronics-ECHO-GP™, Votrax-TYPE-'N-TALK™). A convenient table of the various features of each manufacturer's speech synthesizer is provided to assist you in selecting the unit which best fits your requirements.

OMICRON also offers valFORTH™ by VALPAR International, the language that ATARI 400/800 users are all talking about (see enclosed data sheet).

Be sure to check our attached price list. At OMICRON, we discount our entire product line (not just selected items). All prices listed INCLUDE shipping, handling and insurance. The price listed is the price you pay (Connecticut residents must add sales tax).

Look to OMICRON for quality small computer related products, at affordable prices.

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

## VOICE BOX™ - The Alien Group

This low cost synthesizer offers many features of the more expensive units at a cost that everyone can afford. The **VOICE BOX** is engineered to simply connect to the **ATARI 400/800's** serial port (the same as your cassette recorder). **NO ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT** is required other than your computer and disk drive **OR** cassette recorder. Spoken output is routed through your television speaker so no special speaker or amplifier is required. Four intonation levels and access to all sixty-four (64) phonemes are standard. A special dictionary (provided on diskette or cassette tape) allows **automatic** translation of text without resorting to phoneme coding. The **VOICE BOX** is also available for the **APPLE II+™**. The Alien Group is currently sponsoring a contest with a **\$5000.00** prize (plus royalties) for the best **ATARI 400/800** or **APPLE II+** game using the **VOICE BOX**. The contest deadline is May 30, 1983. Write to The Alien Group for contest details.

## INTEX TALKER™ - Intex Micro Systems

The **INTEX TALKER** comes standard with every feature the small computer enthusiast could ask for in a reasonably priced speech synthesizer. **BOTH RS232C AND PARALLEL** interfaces are **standard** equipment. A built-in **6502** microprocessor ensures excellent performance without slowing down your computer. Sophisticated text to phoneme algorithm (in ROM), **SC-01A** speech synthesis chip, spoken punctuation, sixty-four (64) inflection/intonation levels, direct access to all sixty-four phonemes (if you choose to use phoneme coding), music and sound effects capabilities are **some** of the standard features of the **INTEX TALKER**. Both a built-in power supply and one watt amplifier are included (a jack for connecting the unit to an AUX input of your home stereo is also provided). An **ATARI 850™ Interface** (or equivalent), external speaker (if not using your stereo system) and cable are required. The **INTEX TALKER** is a general purpose speech synthesizer, and may be used with **any** computer with an RS232C or parallel interface. **BYTE** magazine featured this unit in a two part article by Steve Ciarcia appearing in the September and October, 1982 issues. Read this article for an in depth description of this unit.

## ECHO-GP™ - Street Electronics Corporation

The **ECHO-GP** speech synthesizer uses an upgraded version of the Texas Instruments **Speak & Spell** chip which uses **Linear Predictive Coding** speech synthesis technology. The **TEXTALKER™** text-to-speech firmware and **SPEAKEASY™** phoneme generator are provided with the **ECHO-GP**. Direct access

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

to forty-eight (48) phonemes and diphthongs and sixty-three (63) intonation or pitch levels are supported. The **ECHO-GP** is available in either RS232C or parallel versions and includes a built-in microprocessor, speaker and amplifier. This unit was compared to the Votrax **TYPE-'N'-TALK** in the June, 1982 issue of **ANTIC**, *The ATARI Resource*. **ANTIC** stated that "Intelligibility, features and price make the **ECHO** distinctly superior." An **ATARI 850 Interface** (or equivalent) and cable are required.

## **TYPE-'N-TALK' - VOTRAX**

The **TYPE-'N-TALK** speech synthesizer is manufactured by the makers of the now famous **SC-01** speech synthesis chip. The **TYPE-'N-TALK** features a built-in microprocessor, phoneme access modes, pronunciation of each character (including punctuation) if desired and the ability to "daisy chain" more than one speech synthesizer together. This unit comes complete with power supply and one watt audio amplifier. An **ATARI 850 Interface** (or equivalent), external speaker and cable are required. The **TYPE-'N-TALK** is a general purpose speech synthesizer, and may be used with any computer with an RS232C interface. **ANTIC**, *The ATARI Resource*, featured the **TYPE-'N-TALK** and **ECHO-GP** speech synthesizers in a June, 1982 review.

**NOTE:** All speech synthesizers handled by **OMICRON** have unlimited vocabulary capability and are as easy to use as inserting **PRINT** statements into a **BASIC** program. Don't confuse these products with limited vocabulary units available elsewhere.

**ATARI**, **ATARI 400**, **ATARI 800**, **ATARI 810** and **ATARI 850** are trademarks of **ATARI, Inc.** a Division of Warner Communications.

**APPLE II+** is a trademark of Apple Computer, Inc.

**ANTIC** is a trademark of **ANTIC Publishing**.

**VOICE BOX** is a trademark of The Alien Group.

**INTEX** and **INTEX TALKER** are trademarks of **INTEX Micro Systems**.

**ECHO**, **TEXTALKER** and **SPEAKEASY** are trademarks of Street Electronics Corp.

**VOTRAX** and **TYPE-'N-TALK** are trademarks of **VOTRAX**, a Division of Federal Screw Works.

**BYTE** is a trademark of **BYTE Publishing, Inc.** a subsidiary of McGraw-Hill, Inc.

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

## Speech Synthesizers Comparison

	*VOICE BOX™	INTEX Talker™	ECHO-GP™	TYPE - 'N-TALK™
List Price (excluding shipping)	Alien Group	Intex Micro Systems	Street Electronics	Votrax
<b>Omicron Price (including shipping)</b>	\$169.00	\$295.00	\$369.00	\$375.00
Manufacturers Limited Warranty (days)	\$149.95	\$269.95	\$339.95	\$324.95
Inflection Levels (Pitch)	N/S	90	N/S	30
Vocabulary Limit	4	64	63	N/S
Number Of Phonemes	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Synthesis Type	N/S	64	48	64
Music Capability	N/S	SC-01A	LPC (1)	SC-01
Built in Microprocessor	N/S	Yes	N/S	N/S
RS232C Interface	N/AP (2)	Yes (6502)	Yes	Yes
Parallel Interface	N/AP (2)	Standard	Standard	Standard
Built in Amplifier	N/R (4)	Standard	Optional (3)	N/AV
Built in Power Supply	N/R	Yes (1 Watt)	Yes	Yes (1 Watt)
Speaker	N/S	Yes	N/S	Yes
		User Supplied	Included	User Supplied

N/S - Not Specified in manufacturer's technical data sheet.

N/AP - Not Applicable.

N/AV - This feature Not Available.

N/R - Not Required.

- (1) The ECHO-GP uses an upgraded version of the **Speak & Spell™** chip developed by Texas Instruments and uses **Linear Predictive Coding** speech synthesis technology.
  - (2) The Alien Group **VOICE BOX** plugs directly into the **ATARI 400/800** serial port (just like the cassette recorder).
  - (3) The **ECHO-GP** is available in **either RS232C or parallel** port versions.
  - (4) The Alien Group **VOICE BOX** plays directly through your TV speaker.
- (\*) Comparisons listed are for the **ATARI 400/800** version of the Alien Group **VOICE BOX**.

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

## valFORTH™ - VALPAR International

**valFORTH™** by **VALPAR International** is the hottest new language implementation for your **ATARI 400/800** computer. If you have ever been disappointed by the slow speed of BASIC or frustrated by Assembler language programming, then **valFORTH** is for **YOU**. **VALPAR International** used the **ATARI Program Exchange (APX)** **figFORTH** as a starting point. They eliminated existing bugs in the **figFORTH** code and added new, incredibly powerful, FORTH words to take advantage of the special features of the **ATARI 400/800** (such as display lists, graphics and sound). The result is an extremely powerful, high level language which minimizes memory useage and executes **FAST**.

When we first ordered **valFORTH** and it's various associated packages, we wondered if a language could be worth the list price we paid for **valFORTH**. After having used this language for several months, we can honestly say that we would have paid an even higher price for a package with as many professional features as **valFORTH**. FORTH is a language unlike the languages with which most computer users are familiar. FORTH implementations typically execute **10-20 times faster** than BASIC (that's not a typo, 10-20 times faster) and can occupy less memory than Assembler language code. It is not quite as fast as Assembler language but can be as easy to use as a high level language (this greatly speeds up the program development process).

**valFORTH** is an outstanding FORTH implementation which provides the serious **ATARI 400/800** user with most of the tools required to write programs which rival those written by professional programmers, with much less effort (we had players moving around the screen under joystick control an hour after we received the Player/Missile graphics package, and we had never programmed in FORTH or a FORTH like language before). A major strength of **valFORTH** is the amount of documentation supplied (approximately **300** pages of documentation are provided).

**valFORTH** currently comes in six separate packages. We at **OMICRON**, feel that all six packages are necessary to realize the full potential of this powerful language. As a result, we offer only complete sets of **valFORTH** (priced substantially below list price). A brief description of each of the packages follows:

° **valFORTH 1.1** is the core (kernel) of **VALPAR's** FORTH implementation. As mentioned above it is an improved and expanded version of **ATARI APX figFORTH**. Included are floating point routines, access to Operating System I/O routines (i.e. access to RS232 ports), standard fig editor and Macro Assembler which allows high level FORTH and assembler code to be mixed.

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

° General Utilities & Video Editor - CASE statements, **ARRAYS** and **STRING** support are all included in this package. The advanced video editor is a pleasure to use and contains virtually every feature you could want in a **FORTH** oriented editor. Also included are routines for high resolution textoutput.

° Player/Missile Graphics, Character & Sound Editors - This package makes using player/missile graphics so easy that we feel this package warrants the purchase price by itself. Setting up players, establishing player boundaries, moving them under joystick control and detecting collisions can be programmed literally in minutes. A fine character editor and equally good sound editor are also included.

° Display Formatter - Keeping in the **valFORTH** tradition, this package makes custom display list creation a snap. Mixed text and graphics modes, formatting of display lists, fine scrolling (horizontal and vertical), display block delete and insert, automatic insertion of display memory jumps and display interrupts are not only supported, but are incredibly easy to use.

° Turtle & valGRAPHICS™, Advanced Floating Point Routines - All the **ATARI** graphics routines were rewritten for this package. The result is a collection of routines that are approximately **six times faster** than their **ATARI** counterparts and are "smarter", as well. Features such as **LEFT** or **RIGHT** fill (with or without artifacting), exclusive **OR**'ing or replacement, and access to graphics mode **7+** (seven and a half) are supported. The use of a standard Cartesian Coordinate System makes plotting more straight forward than the standard **ATARI** coordinate system. Multiple named windows (complete with clipping), named points and an "aspect ratio" calculation, which allows a square to look square on your television screen instead of rectangular, are some additional features of this package. Advanced Floating Point routines and Trig Functions are also included.

° Text Compression & Auto Text Formatting - Left or right justification and centering are supported. The text compression feature is particularly useful for writer of adventure games or similar applications.

A **valDOS™** package for reading and writing **DOS** compatible files and a **3-D** graphics package have been announced and should be available soon.

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

## PRICE LIST - Effective October 1, 1982

<u>Product Description</u>	<u>Manufacturer's List Price</u>	<u>OMICRON Price</u>
The Alien Group - VOICE BOX (ATARI) (Specify Disk or Cassette version)	\$169.00	<b>\$149.95</b>
INTEX Talker	\$295.00	<b>\$269.95</b>
ECHO-GP	\$369.00	<b>\$339.95</b>
Votrax - TYPE-'N-TALK Cable for TYPE-'N-TALK (ATARI)	\$375.00 \$24.95	<b>\$324.95 \$22.95</b>
Pkg #1 - valFORTH 1.1	\$45.00	
Pkg #2 - Utilities & Video Editor	\$40.00	
Pkg #3 - P/M Graphics	\$40.00	
Pkg #4 - Display Formatter	\$35.00	
Pkg #5 - Turtle & valGRAPHICS, etc.	\$45.00	
Pkg #6 - Text Comp. & Auto Text Formatting	\$35.00	
Heavy Duty Professional Binder	\$13.00	
Complete valFORTH Package	<u>\$253.00</u>	<b>\$199.95</b>
Starting FORTH by Leo Brodie (available only with purchase of complete valFORTH package).	\$15.95	<b>\$14.00</b>

The complete valFORTH package requires 32K memory and a disk drive.

All prices **include** shipping, handling and insurance. There are no additional or hidden charges except that Connecticut residents must add 7.5% sales tax.

Prices are applicable only to U.S. shipments within the 48 contiguous states.

Prices are subject to change without notice.

All products are covered by the manufacturer's warranty.

**Official Users Groups** ordering **two or more** of any item will receive an **additional** discount. All items must be shipped to the same address. Write for details.

Write for information concerning other **OMICRON** products (printer poolers, etc.).

# OMICRON

Enterprises, Inc.

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone: (     )     -		

Computer Type	Manufacturer:	Model #:
Total Memory (K):	Cassette:	
Disk(s):		
Printer:		
RS232 Interface:		
Other Equipment:		

Product Description	Item #	Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Amount
Sub Total				
Shipping, handling, insurance				\$0.00
Connecticut residents add 7.5% *				
Total Amount Enclosed				

\* Orders shipped within Connecticut must add 7.5% sales tax.

Send money order, certified check, bank treasurer's check or personal check. Personal checks must wait ten business days before processing. Do not send cash through the mail. No C.O.D. orders will be accepted.